

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
KEY WEST BUREAU
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MFL-5013
2 April 1985

MEMORANDUM TO: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Key West Bureau--March 1985

I. GENERAL

There was very little "progress" on the FBIS base housing project during the month. The architect advised he has received project review comments from NAVFAC/Charleston and plans to forward "Final Submittal" on/about 10 April. Design release and bid preparation should be complete by 25 April, followed by a 53-day period for advertising and receipt of bid proposals.

Key West Bureau took its first giant step into the world of modernization with the successful completion on 29 March of a 2-week training course on the new IBM PC system. Six bureau staffers, including the chief, have been initiated in "DOS," "Lotus," and "Multimate." Aside from processing this and other textual reports, first major project underway is input of cruising database for Cuba.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. With Cuba's switch to daylight savings time on 17 March, early dayshift for monitors now starts at 0530 instead of 0600. This is only temporary until U.S. daylight time begins in late April.

2. Although the month got off to a slow start, things picked up quickly starting with the death of Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko on 10 March. Cuba's Fidel Castro surprisingly chose not to attend the Moscow funeral, citing prior commitments, and instead dispatched his brother Raul. The potential strain in Cuban-Soviet relations was also apparent in the failure by Fidel to visit the Soviet Embassy to sign the book of condolences, as did other high-ranking Cuban leaders. Other highlights from Cuba included

Fidel's 3-hour speech to the closing session of the Cuban Women's Federation Congress on 8 March, and extensive NOTIMEX coverage of Castro's interview with the Mexico City newspaper EXCELSIOR.

Events in Mexico also kept us busy, highlighted by Foreign Secretary Sepulveda Amor's 3-day visit to Havana, Argentine President Alfonsin's 3-day visit, as well as visits by PRC State Councillor Gu Mu and Portuguese Foreign Minister Jaime Gama. The aftermath of the slaying of a U.S. narcotics agent in Mexico also generated numerous items.

News from the Caribbean was highlighted by the sudden death of Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams. Even Guyana gained notoriety during the month in connection with a government conflict with the Council of Churches which issued a document attacking official policies.

B. Communications

Problems with non-receipt of classified messages were resolved when it became apparent that local commo personnel were delivering our incoming as well as outgoing traffic to local J-2 office at U.S. Forces Caribbean. Separating the in/out boxes seems to have resolved the difficulty.

The Navy is in initial stages of upgrading local communications circuits to microwave which should resolve recurrent outages caused by flooding of landline cable paths during periods of heavy rainfall. Full implementation is still a year or two away, but both NAS Boca Chica and COMUSFORCARIB communications chiefs assure us that FBIS is included in their planning.

C. Lateral Services

At behest of OPS/MOD, on 22 March bureau began daily overnight express shipment to Key Building of videotapes from major evening Havana TV newscast. The "Cities Project" is for benefit of interested headquarters consumers.

D. Technical

By the end of the month formal approval was received from Naval Security Group Activity for utilization of a portion of their property adjacent to the bureau's antenna field for our 750-ft experimental Beverage antenna. Bureau technician and antenna maintenance contractor immediately proceeded to install 600 feet of heavy coax cable from antenna terminal into operations building. Bureau's cruising monitor is now further evaluating antenna potential prior to experimentation with NAVCOMMUNIT's Hermes Loop array antenna out at Boca Chica, now planned for early April.

Nonexpendable property received during the month consisted of one Reaction Instruments VHF/UHF antenna multicoupler (Model 414-12; SN: 496) shipped from headquarters.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

STAT 1. Part-time contract teletypists [] and
STAT [] received promotions to GS-06 effective 17
February.

STAT 2. Part-time administrative assistant []
entered on duty 18 March, in time for PC training. Her prior
experience with Wang and other PC systems has given her an unfair
advantage in becoming "Chief Hacker" on the new IBM system.

STAT 3. Monitor [] received word late in the month
that her PCS transfer to another component has been approved with an
effective date of 14 April. 29 Apr '7

STAT 4. Final EOD clearance has been received for monitor []
STAT [] who plans to transfer from Jacksonville, Florida, to
Key West on 29 April.

STAT 5. EOD clearance also was received for part-time contract
STAT teletypists [] both currently
employed full time by local Navy components. They will begin
STAT preliminary training with communications supervisor [] in
early April.

STAT 6. Monitor candidate [] currently working in
Los Angeles, CA, was satisfactorily tested by MOD for a position in
Key West and has been put in for EOD processing.

B. Building & Grounds

The bureau's auxiliary power generator received its annual
inspection and tuneup, including replacement of a 4-yr-old starter
battery.

The contract for replacement of corroded fencing around the
operations building and antenna fields has been put on hold pending
completion of bureau physical security survey scheduled for end of
April.

IV. VISITS

STAT 1. MOD staffer [] visited bureau on TDY 3-22 March
STAT for training with contract cruising monitor []

STAT 2. P&TB staffers [] visited bureau TDY
10-13 March for orientation in field operations.

3. On 15 March the bureau chief paid a call on CDR Ken Yasutome,
director of J-6 (Communications) for U.S. Forces Caribbean, for
briefing on planned communications upgrade for Key West area.

STAT 4. SDS contractor [] visited bureau 17-29

March for training of bureau staff on IBM PC system.

STAT

5. Miami office chief [] and LA specialist [] (who served rotational tour with old Puerto Rico bureau in sixties) dropped in on 21 March for quick briefing and discussion of heightened interest in open-source reporting from Caribbean area. They were in Key West for visit to U.S. Forces Caribbean Command.

6. LCDR William Castle, chief of NAS Communications Unit, Boca Chica, visited bureau on 25 March for orientation and discussion of our request to run tests on his Hermes Loop array antenna.

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

STAT

Bureau monitor [] has been appointed FBIS representative to NAS Recreational Services Committee with designated mission of seeking approval for NAS civilian employees to utilize certain recreational facilities currently limited to active duty military (e.g., tennis courts adjacent to FBIS housing project site on Truman Annex). After two meetings she reports that her proposal is under active consideration.

STAT

[]

Chief, Key West Bureau

Attachment:
Production Report

cc: Chief, Panama Bureau

KEY WEST BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR APRIL 1985

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 134,700

TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH :23,940

TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH :629

	BROADCASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	2,575	14,700	21
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER WEEK)	MIN	MIN	ISSUES

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)

BAHAMAS

Nassau Domestic Service
in English

_100_____

Nassau THE TRIBUNE
in English

BARBADOS

Bridgetown CANA
in English

_49,750_____

Bridgetown ADVOCATE in English

Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE
in English

BELIZE

Belize City Domestic Service
in English

_860_____

CUBA

Havana Domestic Service
in Spanish

_30,050_____

Havana Domestic Television
in Spanish

_15,700_____

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Santo Domingo Radio
in Spanish

_340_____

Santo Domingo Radio Commerical
in Spanish

Santo Domingo Radio Popular
in Spanish

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish		<u>1,580</u>
GUYANA Georgetown Guyana Domestic Service in English	<u> </u>	
JAMAICA Kingston Domestic Service in English	<u>130</u>	
Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English		<u> </u>
Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English		<u> </u>
MEXICO Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish		<u>32,670</u>
NETHERLANDS ANTILLES Bonaire Trans World Radio in English	<u>1,820</u>	
THE NETHERLANDS Hilversum International in English	<u>1,700</u>	
OTHER SOURCES:		